



## Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 453**

*January Session, 2003*

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1158

*Senate, April 17, 2003*

The Committee on Environment reported through SEN. WILLIAMS of the 29th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

### **AN ACT CONCERNING THE MORATORIUM ON PROJECTS IN LONG ISLAND SOUND.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 25-157 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes, no  
4 state agency, including, but not limited to, the Department of  
5 Environmental Protection and the Connecticut Siting Council, shall  
6 consider or render a final decision for any applications relating to  
7 interstate electric power line crossings, gas pipeline crossings or  
8 telecommunications crossings of Long Island Sound including, but not  
9 limited to, electrical power line, gas pipeline or telecommunications  
10 applications that are pending or received after June 3, 2002, for a  
11 period of [one year] two years after June 3, 2002. Such moratorium  
12 shall not apply to applications relating solely to the maintenance,  
13 repair or replacement necessary for repair of electrical power lines, gas

14 pipelines or telecommunications facilities currently used to provide  
15 service to customers located on islands or peninsulas off the  
16 Connecticut coast or harbors, embayments, tidal rivers, streams or  
17 creeks. Nothing in section 16-244j, this section or sections 25-157a to 25-  
18 157c, inclusive, shall be construed to affect the project in the corridor  
19 across Long Island Sound, from Norwalk to Northport, New York, to  
20 replace the existing electric cables that cross the sound. During such  
21 twelve-month moratorium on applications relating to crossings of  
22 Long Island Sound, the Institute of Sustainable Energy at the Eastern  
23 Connecticut State University shall chair and convene a task force of the  
24 parties described in section 25-157a in order to undertake the tasks  
25 described in section 25-157a.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>

**ENV**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Type	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
Department of Environmental Protection	Environmental Quality - Cost/ Revenue Gain	None	None
Siting Council, CT	CC&PUCF	None	None
CT State Univ.	GF	None	None

Note: CC&PUCF=Consumer Counsel and Public Utility Control Fund; GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

Extending the moratorium by one year until June 3, 2004 will result in a minimal workload decrease offset by a minimal decrease in revenue. Fewer permit applications will be processed by the Department of Environmental Protection.

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

sSB 1158

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE MORATORIUM ON PROJECTS IN LONG ISLAND SOUND*****SUMMARY:**

This bill extends a moratorium on state agency consideration or final decisions on any electric power line, gas pipeline, or telecommunications crossings of Long Island Sound by one year, until June 3, 2004, but restricts the moratorium to interstate crossings. The current moratorium on intrastate crossings would end upon passage of this bill. As by law, the moratorium does not apply to maintenance, repair, or replacement work necessary for repair of electric power lines; gas pipelines or telecommunications crossings currently serving customers located on islands or peninsulas off the Connecticut coast; or harbors, embayments, tidal rivers, streams, or creeks. It also does not affect a project in the Sound extending from Norwalk to Northport, New York to replace existing electric cables.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**BACKGROUND*****Long Island Sound Moratorium***

PA 02-95, which imposed the moratorium, also included a proposed overland transmission line between Bethel and Norwalk. In addition, it requires the Institute of Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University to lead two working groups and prepare a comprehensive assessment of issues surrounding cross-Sound crossings and the Bethel-Norwalk line. The working group reported on the overland transmission line in January 2003. The report on the cross-Sound crossings is due June 3, 2003.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute  
Yea 27      Nay 0